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## **CLAIMS**

## What is claimed is:

receiving a search query; and

- 1 A method for conducting a search for stored information, comprising the
  2 steps of:
  3 presenting a user interface to a user;
  4 receiving an identification of a particular search language in which to search;
- 6 conducting a search of a database that contains information written in the 7 identified language.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the user interface comprises a search site 2 accessible via a network.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the search site comprises a web site 2 accessible via the Internet.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the search language is selected from a 2 group of several different available languages which each pertain to a different language
- 3 database.

of a different search language in which to search. 2 The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of reconfiguring the 6. 1 user interface so it is presented in the different search language. 2 The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of translating the 1 7. search query into the different language. 2 The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of conducting a search 1 8. for the translated search query in a database containing information written in the 2 3 different language. The method of claim 1, further comprising translating results located 1 9. during the search into a language selected by the user. 2 1 10. A universal search engine, comprising: 2 means for interfacing with a user; and means for searching one of several different available language databases in one 3 of several different available search languages. 4

The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving selection

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- 1 11. The search engine of claim 10, wherein the means for interfacing with a
- 2 user comprises a web site accessible via the Internet.
- 1 12. The search engine of claim 10, further comprising means for receiving
- 2 selection of a different search language.
- 1 13. The search engine of claim 10, further comprising means for reconfiguring
- 2 the means for interfacing with a user when a different search language is selected.
- 1 14. The search engine of claim 10, further comprising means for translating a
- 2 search query into a different language.
- 1 15. The search engine of claim 14, further comprising means for searching for
- 2 the translated search query in a database containing information in the different language.
- 1 16. Search engine software stored on a computer readable medium,
- 2 comprising:
- logic configured to present a user interface to a user:
- 4 logic configured to receive an identification of a particular search language;
- 5 logic configured to receive a search query with the user interface; and
- logic configured to search a database that contains information in the identified
- 7 language.

- 1 17. The software of claim 16, further comprising logic configured to receive
- 2 selection of a different search language.
- 1 18. The software of claim 17, further comprising logic configured to
- 2 reconfigure the user interface so as to be written in the different search language.
- 1 19. The software of claim 17, further comprising logic configured to translate
- 2 the search query into the different language.
- 1 20. The software of claim 19, further comprising logic configured to search
- 2 for the translated search query in a database containing information in the different
- 3 language.